

The Providence Report

Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

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Fall 2012

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8th ANNUAL MERRIFIELD **Fall Festival**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2012

11:00 – 4:00 • Rain or Shine

**LUTHER JACKSON MIDDLE SCHOOL
3020 GALLOWS ROAD, FALLS CHURCH**

Mark your calendar! The Greater Merrifield Business Association welcomes residents to the **Eighth Annual Merrifield Fall Festival**. Come enjoy a day filled with the sights and sounds of Merrifield, featuring fun for the whole family. Food, carnival rides, a fire truck train, face painting, moon bounces, pumpkin painting, shopping, handmade crafts, live entertainment and so much more. Back by popular demand is the County Environmental Health interactive booth with useful resource materials about the environment and disease carrying insects. Entry to the festival is free and in case of rain, events will be moved indoors. For more information see <http://www.greatermerrifield.org/festival/about>.

New Library Hours

Effective September 8, public libraries in Fairfax County will be operating under new hours. A complete list of county libraries, their locations and hours is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/>.

► **Regional Libraries**

Monday through Thursday: 10:00 am – 9:00 pm

Friday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

► **Community Libraries**

Monday, Tuesday: 10:00 am – 9:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Thursday: 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Friday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Sunday: Closed

A Message from Supervisor Smyth

Fall is a wonderful, busy time of the year. Vacation is over, school starts again, and life returns to its normal hectic pace. All around Providence, neighborhoods celebrate fall with picnics and communities come together for festivals. I'm sure I'll see many of you at these events.

In Merrifield, we will have not only our annual festival (see the adjoining column), but also the much anticipated opening of the new Town Center. This development is the culmination of a community planning effort that began more than a decade ago with the goal of transforming an old industrial area into a vibrant new neighborhood. With its mix of retail, restaurants, entertainment, residential, and office, Merrifield has become the premier example of successful revitalization in Fairfax County.

And finally this fall we can all look forward to the completion of the many road projects that have impacted our district both day and night. Repaving along our streets, major intersection work at Gallows and Lee Highway, the 495 Express Lanes, and Dulles Rail have caused delays and tried the patience of Providence residents. But the end, at last, is in sight. Most of the orange barrels and "ROAD WORK AHEAD" signs should disappear before the end of the year. Like you, I can hardly wait.

~ Linda Smyth

Has your HOA or Civic Association recently held elections? Please send your updated contacts to my office at **provdist@fairfaxcounty.gov** so that we can continue to provide your neighborhood with information on community happenings.

Voting Information Including Precinct Changes

The November 6, 2012, elections will have on the ballot the President and Vice President of the United States; the U.S. Senate; two members of the U.S. House of Representatives, 8th and 11th Districts; two proposed State Constitutional Amendments and a Fairfax County Bond Referendum. For a complete list of candidates, visit the county's website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>. Polls will be open from 6:00 am – 7:00 pm and you will vote at your regular polling place EXCEPT:

The **Graham and Greenway precincts** are being combined into one precinct named "Graham-Greenway". The polling location is the new Graham Road Elementary School (formerly the Devonshire Administrative Center) located at 2831 Graham Road, Falls Church.

The precinct boundary between the **Magarity and Tysons precincts** is being adjusted to conform to the newly adopted boundary between the 8th and 11th Congressional Districts. The change will put Magarity precinct entirely within the 8th Congressional District and Tysons precinct entirely within the 11th Congressional District. The area being moved consists of commercial property including the Tysons Corner Shopping Center. No voters are affected by the change and the existing polling places remain the same.

While not a new change since the last election, **Mantua precinct** is reminded that the voting location has moved from the Kena Temple to Fairfax Circle Baptist Church, 3110 Chichester Lane.

State Constitutional Amendments – Proposed constitutional amendments include (1) legislative sessions and (2) due process of law; obligation of contracts; taking of private property. For additional information on these proposed constitutional amendments go to the county's website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm> and click on Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of Virginia.

County Bond Issues – Bond issues include (1) Parks and Facilities; (2) Public Safety; (3) Public Library; and (4) Storm Drainage Improvements. For additional information on these county bond issues go to the county's website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm> and click on County Bond Issues.

Voter ID -- Virginia's new voter ID law has expanded the identification that will be honored at the polls while restricting the ability to vote without showing any ID. **The new law will be in effect for the November 6 election.**

Accepted ID includes voter registration cards, driver's license or other government ID and employee photo ID. Also accepted are a student ID card issued by a state college or university and documents without a photo such as a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck showing the voter's name and address. All registered voters will be mailed a voter card. The new law ends the practice of allowing a voter to cast a regular ballot simply by signing a sworn declaration of identity. Someone showing up at the polls without ID will be allowed to cast a provisional ballot. The voter will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of their identification so that their vote may be counted. For more information see http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Voter_Information/Voter_ID_Requirements_in_Virginia.html.

Report Change of Name or Address -- To remain a qualified registered voter, the law requires you to notify your local voter registration office of any change in your name or address. This must be done before the registration books close for the next election. You can submit your notice of change of name and/or address either by mail at P.O. Box 10161, Fairfax, VA 22038-8061, by fax (703-324-2205), or by email at voting@fairfaxcounty.gov. In either case, the change notice must include your signature to be valid. Notice cannot be made by telephone or by e-mail. After your change is processed, you will be mailed a new Voter Information Card. If a new card does not arrive within a few weeks, please call 703-222-0776 to confirm that your notice was received.

Absentee Voting -- Registered voters who will be away from Fairfax County on Election Day or are unable to go to the polls because of illness or disability may vote by absentee ballot either in-person prior to Election Day or apply to have an absentee ballot mailed to them. Absentee ballot applications are available at county government centers and libraries or may be downloaded from the link at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>.

Important Dates -- The last day to register to vote (if not already registered at current address) is 4:30 pm, Monday, October 15th. The last date to apply for an absentee ballot by mail is 5:00 pm, Tuesday, October 30th. For inclusion in the election, absentee ballots must be returned by 7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 6th.

The county's Office of Elections is available to respond to questions regarding the upcoming election. You may find the information you seek at the website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/> or by calling 703-222-0776 during regular business hours. You may also call 703-324-4700 for 24-hour recorded information.



2012 Providence District VolunteerFest®

Supervisor Smyth is delighted to host the 2012 Providence District VolunteerFest® on October 27 in conjunction with Volunteer Fairfax's countywide VolunteerFest® and National Make a Difference Day. The week long 2012 Providence VolunteerFest® projects will kick off at the Eighth Annual Merrifield Festival on October 20 at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church, 11 am to 4 pm.

The Greater Merrifield Business Association welcomes residents to the Eighth Annual Merrifield Festival. Come enjoy a day filled with the sights and sounds of Merrifield, featuring family fun for all ages: food, carnival rides, a fire truck train, face painting, moon bounces and pumpkin painting. Back by popular demand is the County Environmental Health interactive booth with useful resource materials about the various environmental impacts on our community and what residents can do as caretakers of our environment. Kids are welcome - learn about food safety, Lyme disease, hands on bugs, make your own tick, and more! Entry to the festival is free and will be held rain or shine. Events will be moved indoors if it rains.

All projects will take place on October 27th, unless indicated otherwise

- **Food Drive** — Supervisor Smyth's office and the Hunter Mill Country Day School collect for Food for Others. Non perishable food donations may be dropped off from **October 1st—31st** at Supervisor Smyth's office anytime including weekends 8739 Lee Highway, Fairfax - or Hunter Mill Country Day School 2021 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna, 703-281-4422, 9:00 am — 6:00 pm weekdays.
- **Easy Readers** — A program for first and second grade boys who need reading reinforcement - Oakton Library, Saturdays, from 10:30 — 11:15 am October 6, 20, 27 and November 3, 10, 17. Prior registration is required to participate. For information, contact Michael Luciani at easyreaders@gmail.com.
- **Oakton Community Park — 1:30 pm — 2:30 pm** — Weather permitting, horseback riding demonstration by Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program (www.nvtrp.org) sponsored by Fairfax4Horses.
- **Mini Golf** - Greater Merrifield Business Association (GMBA), Police Department and Park Authority host mentorship mini golf with selected Fairfax County Public School students from 9:00 am — 11:00 am.
- **Neighborhood Park Projects** — Fairfax County Park Authority hosts invasive plant removal projects at four Providence District Parks. Nottoway Park 9 am — 12:00 pm, Dunn Loring Park 9 am — 11:30 am, Borge Street Park 10 am — 2 pm, and Idylwood Park on Sun. the 28th, 9 am — 11:30 am. Participants must RSVP to Erin Stocksclaeder at 703-324-8681, TTY 711, or Erin.Stocksclaeder@fairfaxcounty.gov
- **Soldier Care Packages** — Join Troop Treats and James Lee Community Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church. Packages for our soldiers serving abroad will be prepared from 10:00 am — 12:00 pm. To donate and/or volunteer go to <http://www.trooptreats.com> or call Germaine Broussard, 703-608-4609.
- **Event Promotions** — The Providence Players at James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855-A James Lee Street, Falls Church. The brilliant comedy "You Can't Take It With You" runs October 19 - November 3 (Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm, Sundays at 2 pm) Tickets and additional information available at <http://www.providenceplayers.org>

Supervisor Smyth and the 2012 Providence District VolunteerFest® Committee invite all residents to participate in this year's activities. More information is available on the 2012 VolunteerFest® website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/events.htm> or by calling 703-560-6946, TTY 711 or on the Volunteer Fairfax website at <http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/non-profits/volunteerfest.php> or by calling Meg Emory at 703- 246-3533, TTY 711.



Above, Jerry Hopkins is pictured receiving the Barbara Varon Award from Chairman Sharon Bulova at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Jerry Hopkins Receives the Barbara Varon Award

The Providence District is extremely fortunate to be rich in residents who dedicate themselves to helping make life easier for others. Jerry Hopkins was honored with the Barbara Varon Volunteer Award, which was established to recognize Fairfax County residents' dedication to improving the community through volunteer service. Jerry received the award in recognition of the many years he has advocated and developed programs on behalf of the county's seniors and those with disabilities in the area of affordable housing. The results of his activities include a new affordable dwelling units zoning policy in mid- and high-rise apartments and a strategic plan for long-term care for seniors and those with disabilities. The award recognizes his ability to bring others together to help those in need in the area of affordable housing as these are the people who are often overlooked and underserved in our affluent county. Jerry serves with dedication and determination to have a positive impact on the county's residents, especially those who are in need.

Water Rates Update

As previously reported in the spring edition of the Providence Report, the Board of Supervisors passed a "Water Ordinance" on December 6, 2011, to require municipalities to justify the rate differences that have been imposed upon those of you who receive water from providers other than Fairfax Water. By passing the Water Ordinance, the Board sought to ensure that Fairfax County residents and businesses are not subsidizing the running of cities or towns through their water rates.

This year the City of Falls Church filed suit against the county over the Board of Supervisors' enactment of the Water Ordinance. On the eve of a scheduled June 15 hearing in federal court, all parties to the litigation agreed to stand down for 90 days. At that point the City of Falls Church and Fairfax Water entered into talks over a possible merger that could have ended years of conflict and legal battles. In August, however, the City of Falls Church terminated the talks because it was not satisfied with the amount of money it would receive for transferring its assets to Fairfax Water. The battle is now likely to continue in federal court.

Emergency Information Reminders

The derecho that ripped through our region this summer was a reminder that we all need to plan ahead and be sure we have emergency supplies of food, water, medications, batteries, etc., as well as access to vital emergency information should the unexpected occur. Residents and businesses are encouraged to prepare to be self-sufficient for a minimum of three days (72 hours) and longer depending on the type of emergency. It may take several days for the government and utilities to return to normal services. For additional information on what steps you need to take to prepare for an emergency, visit the website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/prepare/> or call the Office of Emergency Management at 703-324-2362, TTY 711.

The Community Emergency Alert Network, or CEAN, is a service of the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management. Persons registered on the CEAN will be provided a personal connection to real-time updates, instructions on where to go, protective actions that need to be taken, and other important information such as National Weather Service watches and warnings. The CEAN will be used by county officials to deliver emergency alerts and updates during a major crisis or emergency. Messages will be delivered to email accounts, cell phones (text messaging costs may apply; check with your service provider), text pagers, satellite phones and wireless PDAs that are registered on the system. To register for CEAN, visit the Fairfax County web page, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean>. For additional information on the CEAN, contact the Office of Emergency Management at 703-324-2362, TTY 711. CEAN is offered as a public service that will be used in conjunction with other public notification methods, such as the Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line (703-817-7771, TTY 711), cable Channel 16, the Fairfax County Government website, and area media.

The Medical Needs Registry contains the names and address of individuals with medical needs. The medical needs registry is an emergency preparedness tool and will be used by Fairfax County officials for communicating with people with medical needs, pre-event emergency planning and for evacuating and sheltering during actual emergencies. Do not wait until an emergency to register. There is no guarantee that services will be provided, nor does registration guarantee that services will be received on a preferential basis. For qualifications to be placed on this registry and for additional information or to obtain forms please go online to <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/specialneeds/medicalneedsform/> or call 703-324-9000, TTY 711.

For additional ways in which you may stay informed as well as other emergency information and tips, please go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/>. Additionally, the Office of Emergency Management is available to give presentations on emergency preparedness to your homeowner's association, civic group, business or faith community. You may make arrangements by calling 571-350-1000, TTY 711, or email oem@fairfaxcounty.gov. For emergency telephone numbers please visit and keep on hand the listing at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/phonenumbers.htm>.

A Library Jubilee! Let Loose in the Library!

Celebrating Fairfax County Public Library Service since 1939!

**Saturday, October 13, 2012, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm,
Oakton Community Library**

The Fairfax Library Foundation will host its fourth annual Jubilee this year to raise funds for the library's programs most in need of funding.

The event will be held at the Oakton Library, particularly notable as this is the fifth anniversary of the opening of the Oakton branch. The event will feature honorees David Baldacci, best-selling author, and his wife, Michelle, whose efforts to support the Fairfax County Public Library for nearly a decade have made differences in the lives of thousands in Fairfax County.

For more information or to buy tickets, please visit <http://www.FairfaxLibraryFoundation.org>.



HISTORICAL MARKER UNVEILING to honor 26 Civil War Veterans. Flint Hill Cemetery Association will hold a ceremony on Saturday, October 27, 2012, 6:00 pm at Flint Hill Cemetery, 2845 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, Virginia. Please RSVP to www.flinthillcemetery.org.

County Trash Collection Tips

In Fairfax County, trash is collected by either the county or a private company depending on where you live. If you reside in an established Sanitary District, the county collects your trash and recycling and you are billed through a separate line item on your property tax bill. If not, your trash is collected by a private company and you pay them directly. If you're new to the area, you need to find out who collects your trash and recycling by calling 703-803-3322 between the hours of 7:30 am — 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday, except holidays.

If your trash and recycling are collected by Fairfax County and you need brush or bulk materials collected, call 703-802-3322, TTY 711 or schedule the collection online at <https://specialpickup.fairfaxcounty.gov/>. If a private company collects your trash and recyclables, contact them to arrange for a special collection.

Property owners are responsible for arranging disposal of debris generated during tree removal, land clearing, repairs, remodeling, reconstruction, and/or renovations. Day-to-day curbside trash service does not include removal of large amounts of debris generated by these types of projects. Property owners are responsible for debris removal as part of the overall project. Residents can contract with a collection company to provide removal and disposal of debris or they can include it as part of the contract with the contractor that the resident hired to perform the work. A list of authorized collection companies is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphaulers.htm> or by calling 703-324-5230.

Some debris from land clearing and tree removal can be recycled. Residents or contractors can haul debris from land clearing or tree removal projects to either the I-66 (4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax) or I-95 (9850 Furnace Road, Lorton) solid waste complexes to be ground into mulch. There is a fee for the management of land clearing or other construction debris at the county solid waste disposal complexes. Mulch made by grinding woody yard debris is available free of charge to county residents and businesses. For additional information about obtaining free mulch, go to: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/dispmulch.htm> or call 703-324-5995, TTY 711 for locations and to check on mulch availability.

If you have a large amount of debris, the county offers a special collection service for the removal of large quantities of waste known as MegaBulk. Upon your request, you will be provided with a written MegaBulk cost estimate, valid for 10 days and based upon debris set out for collection. The minimum charge for county collection customers is \$60. Residents who receive trash and recycling collection from private trash collectors will be charged a minimum of \$250 for this service. The cost for collection is based on the size of the pile, size of the debris and type of debris. Payment is accepted by credit card or check only. For more information on the MegaBulk service, call 703-802-3322, TTY 711. You may also contract with a private hauler for removal of this waste or take it to the I-66 or I-95 solid waste complexes. Fees for disposal are charged at both of the county's solid waste facilities.

If you observe refuse at the curb or street line for weeks, the county may be able to help through its Clean Streets Initiative (CSI). Call 703-802-3322, TTY 711 to report debris remaining at the curb for long periods of time.

Land Use in Providence

Tysons Corner Plan Implementation

Early this year the Board of Supervisors announced that the Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) will oversee the plan to transform Tysons. The office will help to coordinate efforts countywide, including guiding the direction of any new policies that may be needed: <http://www.fcrevit.org/>. To help with specific guidance for planting, building, urban park and interim condition designs and materials, the Board of Supervisors endorsed the Tysons Urban Design Guidelines developed by OCR: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tysons/design/>.

The Planning Commission reconstituted its Tysons Committee to review, seek community input, and provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Board's Tysons Follow-On Motions. These motions included: financing of infrastructure, options for providing commuter parking at Metrorail stations on an interim basis, affordable housing contributions from non-residential developments, refinement of the county policy on walking distances in Transit Oriented Developments (TODs), and the Initial Development Level (IDL) set forth in the Tysons Corner Comprehensive Plan. The Tysons Committee Strawman III (Aug. 15, 2012) is available for public review. at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/tysons_docs/081512tysonsstrawman3.pdf.

For more details about the Tysons Corner Comprehensive Plan, please visit the website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tysons/>. To review approved and pending Tysons Corner rezoning applications, please visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tysons/development/>.

Vienna/Fairfax Metro Updates

Pulte, the primary developer of the MetroWest development project, is constructing the proffered improvements to Saintsbury Drive and the Metro Station. The phased construction will maintain pedestrian and auto access to and from the station. Parking in the station's two garages and surface lots will not be affected. When construction is completed this December, station customers will have 12 new bus bays and shelters with a continuous canopy to the station entrance, expanded roadway capacity, new traffic signals and improved pedestrian and bicycle paths.

Construction of a new county community center will start later this year and is anticipated to be completed in late 2013 or early 2014. It will be located just south of the Vienna/Fairfax Metro station off Vaden Drive and immediately west of the MetroWest project. The new Fairfax County Community Center is a proffered improvement approved with the MetroWest development. It will include a full gym with associated facilities, other recreational facilities, and meeting space in addition to a new Providence District Supervisor's Office.

Merrifield Updates

New public road improvements are nearing completion in Merrifield. EDENS has realigned and upgraded Eskridge Road to connect to Lee Highway to form a new intersection with Merrilee Drive. The county is working to complete the connection of Eskridge Road south to Williams Drive (and Route 50). This crucial comprehensive planned road connection will allow direct access to the Dunn Loring Metro Station without having to use Gallows Road or Prosperity Avenue. The Eskridge Road/Williams Drive road connection will be completed and open to traffic by the end of the year if not sooner.

Three approved mixed use projects and a new residential high rise building in Merrifield are all under construction:

Mill Creek Residential, developer of the Dunn Loring Metro Station, has constructed a temporary kiss and ride and surface parking facilities to accommodate the construction of the first phase of a new WMATA parking garage. Once the first half of the garage is completed, construction of the first of two new residential buildings will start. This residential project will include 628 units, a Harris Teeter grocery store and ground floor retail space. When completed the station will include a new 2,000 space WMATA parking garage, bus bays and kiss and ride facilities.

DFS Group, the developer of Halstead Square mixed use project located just south of the Dunn Loring/Merrifield Metro Station, has constructed 462 luxury mid-rise apartments in two six-story buildings and will complete 216 loft units in October of this year. This phase of the project also includes 13,600 square feet of new retail and restaurant space. The project when built out will include a hotel, ground floor retail and apartments located in four buildings. The fourth building is in design with construction starting in August or September of 2013.

Hitt Construction is building a 327 unit high rise apartment building on the site of their previous headquarters at 2704 Dorr Ave., adjacent to Prosperity Ave. and within easy walking distance to the Dunn Loring-Merrifield Metro Station.

EDENS, the developer of Mosaic at Merrifield (Merrifield Town Center) is finalizing constructing the first phase of the development fronting Lee Highway including an urban Target store, boutique hotel, grocery store and additional ground floor retail, restaurant space, a new movie theater and a one acre urban park. This first phase of the project will open this fall. Subsequent phases will include more retail, restaurant space and multifamily residential buildings. The townhome component of this project is currently under construction by EYA.

To review the status of pending zoning applications in Providence, utilize the following link: <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/>. Residents can review pending applications using an interactive map: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/staffreports/activecasesmap/>.

Land Use continued

Fairfax County Child Care Update

An issue with the state licensing process for in-home day care providers has caused confusion and misunderstanding among providers and parents. The County is working to ensure state-licensed day care providers understand the process and have adequate time to come into compliance without disrupting service. Chairman Sharon Bulova sent a letter to Fairfax County day care providers clarifying how the Commonwealth licenses in-home day care and a possible change to the County Zoning Ordinance. The Chairman's entire letter can be viewed using the following link: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/news/childcare.htm>

More information can be obtained by contacting the Office for Children at 703-324-8100

Hillwood Square By-Right Redevelopment

The Hillwood Square Cooperative residential development, which is located at 2900 Cherry Street and was constructed during WWII to house Alexandria City Torpedo Factory workers, is slated to be redeveloped by Archstone Apartments. The cooperative of 160 owner occupied units voted to sell their 19.23 acre site to Archstone. The property is zoned R-20, permitting the by-right development of twenty units per acre with the full redevelopment of the site. Archstone has indicated that they plan to accommodate Affordable Dwelling Units with their project resulting in the development of a total of 461 apartments replacing the existing 160 units on the property today. Archstone representatives indicated that they plan to reach out to the Greater Hillwood Civic Association and adjacent homeowners this fall to inform people about their plans for the property. Please feel free to contact Dean Wilson, Sr. VP Archstone at 703-769-1266, dwilson@archstonemail.com or Keith Martin, Esq. at 703-734-4800, Kmartin@tyrlawfirm.com with any questions about the Archstone redevelopment of Hillwood Square.

If you have any land use questions please contact my aide, Michael Wing, at 703-560-6946.

Home Occupation Permits

Residents may operate certain businesses and occupations from their home provided they have a home occupation permit and are conducting the business within the dwelling or in an accessory building which is normally associated with a residential use and is subordinate to the dwelling. Except for articles produced on the premises, no stock may be stored, displayed or sold on the premises. There may not be any signs or exterior evidence that the property is used in any way other than for a dwelling. No mechanical or electrical equipment may be used other than machinery or equipment customarily found in the home, associated with a hobby or avocation not conducted for gain or profit, or customary for a small office. No outside display or storage of goods, equipment or materials used in connection with the home occupation is permitted. The normal limit of one commercial vehicle is permitted at a dwelling and restrictions on types of commercial vehicle (e.g. no trash truck, dump truck, etc.) apply. The permit may not be transferred to another person or used for any other occupation, and the county has the right to inspect during reasonable hours. Unless specifically permitted such as for education, no customers or clients are permitted.

It is important to note that home occupation permits are different than home professional offices (e.g., certified physicians, real estate appraisers, insurance agents, etc.). To learn more about home occupation permits visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoning/homeoccupation/> or call the county's Department of Planning and Zoning, Zoning Administration Division, Zoning Permit Review Branch at 703-222-1082, TTY 711 during the hours of 8 am to 4 pm, Monday through Thursday; or 9:15 am to 4 pm, Friday. If you suspect a violation of the home occupation permit requirements, you may report the suspected violation to the Department of Code Compliance at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/> or call 703-324-1300, TTY 711.

Virginia and Fairfax County Vehicle Registration Requirements

New residents or those registering a vehicle for the first time must file a car tax registration form within 60 days after purchase or entry into Fairfax County. For vehicle renewals, taxpayers are only required to report changes such as name address, vehicle ownership, or vehicle location. These changes must be reported to the county by May 1 of each year. A vehicle is subject to tax if it is normally garaged or parked in the county, even if registered in another state. Tax on motor vehicles is prorated for the portion of the year it is located in the county unless the vehicle is moved to a non-prorating Virginia locality. While there is a requirement for a state safety inspection sticker and a decal where applicable in residential permit parking districts, Fairfax does not issue any county decal.

You may obtain forms and information for car tax registration, car tax appeal, military car tax exemption and application for reduced personal property (car tax) rate for qualifying disabled veterans on-line by going to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/forms.htm#>. You may also obtain forms and/or register your vehicles in person at the Department of Tax Administration's full service cashier counter at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 223. For additional information please call DTA at 703-222-8234.

Tax Evaders — Residents may report vehicles that may be evading Fairfax County's personal property tax laws on line at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/taxevaders/> or by calling 703-222-7594. This automated system can be used to report possible tax evader tips or to check on the status of previous reports.



Lord and Lady Fairfax 2012

Each year, Celebrate Fairfax! and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors partner to honor extraordinary community leaders and volunteers in each magisterial district – they are the Lords and Ladies Fairfax. The two outstanding volunteers and community leaders that are the 2012 Lord and Lady Fairfax for the Providence District are Vivian Morgan-Mendez and Mark Meana.

Vivian created The Friends of Nottoway, who manage park events. Her dedication to the beauty and ecological value of Nottoway Park includes serving since 2008 as a site leader overseeing the restoration of acres of parkland, identifying undesirable invasive plants, removing them manually and restoring native plants to the habitat. Vivian was also honored as the Fairfax County Government Volunteer of the Year by Volunteer Fairfax.

Mark Meana has been a major force in youth athletics in Fairfax and Vienna. He is a 30-year veteran of the Fairfax County Youth Football League, one of Mid-Atlantic's most successful youth football leagues as well as First Vice president of Vienna Youth, Inc., or VYI. Mark is a tireless advocate for artificial turf fields, which greatly extend playing time for our youth. Mark also serves on the Fairfax County Athletic Council and on the Providence Athletic Fields Task Force.

Ed Long Appointed New County Executive

As we reported in our last newsletter, Tony Griffin retired as Fairfax's County Executive. Since then Edward L. Long Jr. has been appointed as his successor. Ed Long is a former Deputy County Executive and former Department of Management and Budget director. He has more than 34 years of experience with the county and oversaw all of the county's financial and human resources functions including tax administration and assessments, revenue collection, investments, internal and external auditing, budgeting, revenue projections, purchasing and supply management, facilities management, fleet management, issuance and management of county debt, retirement funds administration and more.

TAKE BACK THE FOREST

Dig in and get involved with native habitat restoration in the Nottoway woodlands. Help TAKE BACK THE FOREST: *remove* invasive plants and *replant* native species. Students and scouts earn community service and environmental project hours. Scout projects are welcome.

Workdays: *Saturdays* (9 am—noon), Sept. 29, Oct. 13, Oct. 27 (rain date: Nov. 3) *Wednesdays* (2:30—5:30 pm), Sept. 19, Oct. 17.

Address: Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Rd, Vienna

More Information: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/IMA/> or call 703-324-8681.

Spotting Dangerous Trees

Following the severe weather we've had recently, residents should examine their trees to see if they present a danger. Property owners are responsible for maintaining their trees and should have a certified arborist inspect trees regularly. While it may not always be obvious when a tree could pose a hazard, there are signs that may indicate that a tree may be in danger of falling including dead branches in the tree or on the ground near the tree; mushrooms near the base of the tree; excessive leaf loss or dead leaves at the top of the tree; cavities, cracks or seams in the tree or areas of rotten wood; nearby trees are dead or have significant damage; a change in how the tree leans; ground is heaving or cracked near the base of the tree; and/or the surrounding ground is damaged from construction, erosion or storms.

If there is an immediate, life-threatening hazard, residents who are concerned about a hazardous tree generally or one in danger of falling onto electric wires or blocking a public road should call 9-1-1. If a tree falls onto utility lines, call the local power company – **never approach or touch trees or limbs that contact power lines as they may be energized and extremely dangerous**. For a tree that has fallen on a public road, call VDOT at 1-800-367-7623. Fairfax County has no legal authority to require the removal of a hazardous tree located on private property unless the tree threatens the public at large (public streets, sidewalks, school yards and parks). If the Urban Forest Management Division determines that a tree is a threat to the public, then the owner of the property is required to have the tree removed. When there is a dispute between neighbors about a hazardous tree, this is a civil issue and Fairfax County will not take action in these situations. For additional information concerning hazardous trees, visit the website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/treehazards.htm> or contact the Urban Forest Management Division at 703-324-1770, TTY 711.

Transportation Matters

Providence District is in the center of Fairfax County, where interstates converge and Metrorail runs. There are several major state projects underway. The good news is that the two projects most affecting our daily commutes – the I-495 HOT Lanes and Gallows Road/Lee Highway intersection projects – are on schedule to finish by the end of 2012.

I-495 Capital Beltway Express Lanes

Long known as the HOT Lanes project, Federal Highway Administration guidelines require the high occupancy tolls lanes to be designated as express lanes on signage. These express lanes will be operational at the end of December 2012.

Virginia will be the first state in the nation to offer a multi-mode E-ZPass: the E-ZPass Flex, which is a new E-ZPass transponder able to switch between toll-free and toll-paying travel. While standard E-ZPass devices will work in the Express Lanes, the E-ZPass Flex features a manual switch on the transponder allowing drivers to select between toll-paying and HOV modes. HOV mode allows vehicles with three or more occupants (HOV-3) to use the Express Lanes toll-free.

More information about E-ZPass and E-ZPass Flex transponders, including details of cost and where to buy them, can be found at EZPassVA.com, or by calling toll-free at 1-877-762-7824.

Lee Highway & Gallows Road Intersection Improvement

The project will finish on schedule with construction substantially complete in November 2012. The contractor is actively working on three of the four legs of the intersection. Along Gallows Road south, the contractor has shifted traffic for final utility work before placing a concrete median and paving. Along Gallows Road north, the contractor is removing existing curb and gutter and preparing to replace the parking lot in front of the apartment buildings. Along Lee Highway east of the intersection, the contractor is preparing for placing the final roadway alignment. The contractor will repave the surface along all four legs of this intersection in mid-October.

When finished, the intersection will be widened to accommodate right turn and dual left turn lanes in each direction. The project also includes extensive sidewalks along both roads. More information about the project can be found at http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/lee_highway_and_gallows_road.asp.

I-66

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is currently on schedule to complete the I-66 resurfacing project by the middle of November. Paving operations are nearly complete, with final paving completed for both east- and west-bound lanes and the application of the high friction surface in the auxiliary lanes – open for use during rush hours - and completion of the pavement markings. Guardrail improvements are also underway along I-66 mainline and the ramps in the stretch between Route 50 and the Beltway.

Metrorail Silver Line

With overall Phase 1 construction at the 80 percent completion mark, crews are focusing on building the bridges to allow customers to cross the busy streets and into the stations. All five stations are along the side of or in the middle of a major road. The McLean station (formerly Tysons West) is on the northwest side of Route 123 at Scotts Crossing. The Tysons Corner Station (formerly the Tysons Central 123 station) is at Route 123 at Tysons Boulevard. The stations at Greensboro (formerly Tysons Central 7) and the Spring Hill (formerly Tysons West) are in the middle of Route 7. The Wiehle Station is in the middle of the Dulles International Airport Access Highway/Dulles Toll Road corridor.

In late summer, the project reached a major milestone when the final segment of the aerial bridges to carry trains in Tysons Corner was completed. Gone are the three huge horizontal trusses that dominated the Tyson's skyline in the recent years. Crews are now focusing on bridges, completion of stations, and systems completion of the expansion at the West Falls Church Yard, a critical part of the project.

Testing of new track is taking place and disruptions of Orange Line rail service from Vienna to East Falls Church will continue as testing intensifies. When buses replace trains between these stations and the West Falls Church and Dunn Loring stations, the rail project works with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to alert rail users of possible delays.

Construction is on track to be completed in mid-summer 2013, with operations slated to begin in late 2013.



Pictured from left to right are FCPA Historian Karen Lindquist; Charlie Balch, Hunter Mill Defense League (HMDL); Pat Price, great granddaughter of Mary Holland Bell; Steve Hull, HMDL; Don Price; Supervisor Linda Smyth; Ken Quincy, FCPA Board; and John Dargle, Jr., FCPA director.

Schoolhouse Interpretive Signs Unveiled in Oakton

Providence District Supervisor Linda Smyth and Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) Board Vice Chairman and Providence District representative Ken Quincy gathered with residents of the Oakton area, members of the Hunter Mill Defense League, and FCPA staff to mark the installation of two new interpretive markers in front of the Oakton Schoolhouse on Saturday, July 14, 2012. The signs tell the story of Oakton's three schoolhouses and explore the life of teacher Mary Holland Bell. This fall a new playground, paid for by developer proffer contributions, will be constructed behind the schoolhouse in the Oakton Community Park.



The fields at **Oak Marr Park** are now complete with the official opening of these two lighted synthetic turf fields held September 8, 2012. Two field areas of 190' by 370' each were installed with striping for multi-purpose sports as well as the installation of a regulation cricket pitch between the two fields.

Fertilizer and Our Watersheds

"Fertilize in the fall, if at all." Excess fertilizers are washed off the land into streams by stormwater and are a large contributor to the pollution that harms the Chesapeake Bay. The extra load of nutrients from fertilizer causes huge algae population blooms which then lead to "dead zones" in the bay. Fertilizing your lawn in the spring only contributes to increased blade growth, which then means more mowing (causing more air pollution). Fertilizing properly in the fall will improve the health of your lawn because this is the time of year that the roots grow stronger and denser. Pick up a soil test kit at your local home improvement store or from the Virginia Cooperative Extension service to find out what fertilizers, if any, your lawn needs. Protect the health of your local stream and the bay, and save money at the same time. More information can be found here: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/newsletter/falllawncare.htm>.

There are many simple actions that residents can take to help improve their local streams and watershed. This includes ensuring that only rain goes down the storm drains, washing cars so that the soapy water is not directed into storm drains, and installing rain barrels at downspouts. More information on these and other volunteer activities may be found at Fairfax County's Stormwater website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/stormwater>.

Bike Smart, Bike Safe

In Northern Virginia and Fairfax County, more and more people are realizing the benefits of bicycling. It's good for the environment, it saves you money, it reduces congestion, and it's a healthy mode of transportation. With this growing number of cyclists on our roads and trails, it's important to know and understand our responsibilities as drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

In Virginia, bicyclists and motorists basically have the same rights, responsibilities and duties, and the laws governing traffic regulation apply equally to both. Bicyclists must obey all traffic signs, signals, lights and markings. Bicyclists must also signal their intentions to stop or turn. To signal a left turn, the left arm is extended out straight; to signal a right turn, you can either extend the right arm out straight or extend the left arm up with the elbow bent; and to signal the intent to slow or stop, the left arm is extended down. Remember, you're sharing the road or trail so please be considerate. Maintain control of your bike at all times, announce your intention to pass, and obey the laws. When approaching pedestrians, children, horses or pets, exercise particular caution.

For more detailed information regarding laws for bicycling, rights and duties, and riding/safety tips, visit either the Virginia Department of Transportation's bicycle site: www.vdot.virginia.gov/programs/bk-laws.asp or the Fairfax County Department of Transportation's bike page: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/FCDOT/bike>.



Fall 2012 Update from Providence School Board Member Patricia Reed

When school started, we welcomed our newest kindergartners -- ***the future graduates of 2025!*** Their curriculum is vastly different from what we remember. They learn the three "R's," but we added the four "C's": communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking; essential skills for "tomorrow's" workforce. Learn more about it at the ***Education Summit, Saturday, October 20, 8 a.m. to noon at Woodson High School.***

Superintendent Jack Dale will retire effective June 2013. Last June, the School Board agreed to issue a Request for Proposal to enlist the help of a national search firm; and will select the winning contractor in early fall. The Board is committed to strong community engagement throughout this process and to working together to find the right leader for the future of FCPS. More: www.fcps.edu/news/suptsearch.shtml

In September, the beautiful new ***Graham Road Elementary School*** opened. Funded by county taxpayer dollars through bond sales, this project included a comprehensive renovation of the Devonshire Administrative Center and its conversion to a state-of-the-art elementary school with capacity for 500 students. The new school is approximately a mile from the "old" Graham Road Elementary.

There is much interest in the potential ***use of the former Graham Road Elementary School (GRES).*** One group, ***Fairfax Leadership Academy*** (FLA) has proposed a ***charter school*** intended to provide special programs and services to at-risk youth in grades 7-12. FLA's application was reviewed by the Virginia DOE and FCPS. This fall, the Board will consider the application and our Superintendent's recommendation. If approved, the charter school could open August 2013. The School Board has sole authority to approve or modify a charter school application, but public involvement is critical. Email me or speak at the October 9 public hearing. More: www.fcps.edu/news/charter.shtml

Fresh Meals Pilot Program: FCPS selected Marshall High School (MHS) for a special pilot program that will provide fresh, whole foods made from scratch. Sadly, most school kitchens around the country, including Fairfax County, are "warming kitchens." Menus consist of frozen, processed food delivered to the school and reheated before serving. MHS is currently undergoing a three-year renovation so there is time to plan the kitchen and to purchase essential equipment. FCPS is partnering with the Real Food for Kids organization and local suppliers such as the Maple Avenue Market and Farm. This pilot was funded by the \$16 million FCPS Food and Nutrition Services reserve fund, which does not impact the FCPS operating fund.

Later High School Start Times: Last April, the School Board established a goal to start high schools after 8 a.m. We expect FCPS will hire a consultant(s) this fall to develop a feasible Action Plan or Blueprint for Change, one that provides healthful benefits for high school students while considering costs and related community impact. It is important to note that our requirements include consideration of results and public comments from prior FCPS efforts. More: www.fcps.edu/schlbld/starttimes.shtml.

Student Discipline: During the June Board meeting, we voted to postpone implementation of several changes to our student discipline policies. While I believe we have much work to do to improve the tone and practices associated with student discipline, I voted for the nine-month delay. After numerous conversations with my high school and middle school principals who came out in force against the proposed amendments, I decided I could not support mandating changes without considering the input of those who would be required to implement them. Furthermore, we need to review and improve the entire discipline process, rather than focusing on selected portions. Board members should engage the community, bring all parties together, and work as partners for our students' benefit. The Board established a committee to conduct a comprehensive review of the Student Rights and Responsibilities (our discipline policy document) and to report recommendations in March 2013. This committee includes parents, students, school administrators, teachers, and specialists i.e. counselors, social workers, psychologists, hearings officers, School Resource Officers, and juvenile services experts. I appointed Steve Stuban as the Providence District representative.

I hope our students and families have a successful school year. Contact me at **Patricia.Reed1@fcps.edu** with questions, suggestions, opinions -- or invitations to school and community events. I look forward to working with you for the benefit of our Providence District schools and community.

Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
8739 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031

THE PROVIDENCE REPORT

Must-Have Phone Numbers

Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth

Telephone: 703-560-6946 / Fax: 703-207-3541 / TTY: 711

Adult Protective Services: 703-324-7450/ Child Protective Services: 703-324-7400

Suicide Crisis Hotline: (703) 527-4077 Rape Crisis Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

Adult Education	703-658-1201	Alcohol/drug abuse services	703-359-7040
Animal Shelter	703-830-1100	Child care	703-324-8100
Consumer Affairs	703-222-8435	Circuit Courts	703-691-7320
Dept. of Motor Vehicles	804-497-7100	I-66 Disposal Sites	703-631-1179
Emergency	911	Fastran	703-222-9764
Fire/rescue (non-emergency)	703-691-2131	Gang Unit-Police	703-246-4567
Human Services	703-222-0880	Library, Oakton	703-242-4020
Park Authority	703-324-8700	Police (non-emergency)	703-691-2131
Tax Information	703-222-8234	Recreation Classes	703-324-5550
Recycling InfoLine	703-324-5052	School-Age Child Care Program	703-449-8989
School Board	571-423-1075	Senior Citizen Information	703-324-7948
Traffic Tickets	703-246-3764	Trash Pick-up	703-324-5230
VDOT	800-367-7623	Voting Information	703-222-0776

Please call 703-FAIRFAX (703-324-7329), TTY 711 for other county related information.

Copies of the 2007 Providence Resource Directory are available by calling the Providence District Supervisor's office and are also available on the Providence District website at [http:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/Prov_News.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/Prov_News.htm).



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Special accommodations will be provided upon request. For information call our office at 703-560-6946, TTY 711.